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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT

CD NO.

50X1-HUM

COUNTRY Poland and Polish-Occupied Germany

DATE DISTR. 6 September 1950

SUBJECT 1. Military Traffic
2. Partisan Activity

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1. The 500 personnel of the shipment recorded in paragraph 3 of reference report had closely-cropped hair and were 18 to 20 years old.

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2. The guns mentioned in the same paragraph had a split-trail gun carriage with angular trails; two-wheel undercarriage with steel wheels and solid tires under the end of trails; front wheels of steel with spikes and pneumatic tires. The gun barrel was about 3½ meters long, had no muzzle brake and was estimated to be a 200 mm gun. There was a wide, low, protective shield, no higher than the front wheels, bent slightly to the rear and a vertical pneumatic recuperator on both sides of the barrel in front of the protective shield. * The prime movers had five bogie wheels, three track-supporting rollers, one drive wheel and one idler wheel.

3. The sixteen armored vehicles reported in paragraph 1 of reference report were of Soviet type and were unloaded from the train by Soviet soldiers. The Polish engineer, a native of Poznan (P 53/X 26), said that Polish troop units in Poznan had been re-equipped with Soviet tanks and guns. The instructors were Soviet officers.

4. The ammunition shipment mentioned in paragraph 4 of reference report was handed over by Brigade 60 to locomotive Column 2 in Frankfurt/Uder on 13 July 1950 for dispatch to Buckau (M 53/D 69). **

5. The 200 to 300 empty railroad cars observed in Brest Litovsk and mentioned in paragraph 2 of reference report, included about 125 flatcars.

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6.

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A train loaded with reparation goods such as sugar, etc. was derailed by the explosion of a mine. The train was then fired upon with machine guns and rifles. The Soviet escort personnel re-treated after returning a few shots and the personnel remained unmolested. Several railroad cars were plundered and the loot trucked away. The line was later reconstructed by Polish railroad personnel. It was rumored that the first and last escort cars of trains will be armed with light AT guns.

* [redacted] Comment. The gun described may be the 152-mm gun howitzer, type 1937.

** [redacted]

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